(iii) Bhutan: India signed the Extradition Treaty with Bhutan in 1996. The Treaty is in operation.

Stay of Karmapa Lama on Indian Soil

800. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:
SHRI D.P. YADAV:
SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:
SHRI E. BALANANDAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the Government's policy on the stay of Karmapa Lama on Indian soil; and

(b) what are circumstances under which he came to India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Lama Ugyen Thinley Dorji, recognised by his supporters as the 17th Gyalwa Karmapa, arrived in Dharamsala from Tibet on January 5, 2000. The Chinese side has been requested to share with us details regarding the circumstances of his departure from Tibet for India.

Introduction of Forgery-Proof Passports

801. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA:
SHRI SATISHCHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the wide scale forgery, duplication and counter-feiting of Indian Passports and visas for large scale infiltration of terrorists and other elements into the country through legal channels as well as incidence of hijacking of IA aircraft, there is any proposal with Government to develop/introduce passports which are forgery-proof and can not be duplicated and counter-feited without instant and easy detection on lines similar to those in use in countries like Australia and Malaysia;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the time frame for implementation; and